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This report is published by Medical Assistance Administration, the State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) for DSHS staff, county committees, Healthy Options contracted health plans, FFS providers, client advocates, and other interested parties.

### ABOUT THE SURVEY AND ITS RESULTS

### PURPOSE

The 1998 Medicaid client survey was designed to assess the satisfaction of program beneficiaries with the health care and services they received through the Healthy Options (HO) and Fee-for-Service (FFS) programs.

- ☐ The survey was sponsored by the state of Washington Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) to find out what members think about how the HO health plans and FFS providers are delivering health care and services.
- The survey was designed to help the HO plan members select the best health care plan to meet their needs.
- For the first time, the survey was adapted for clients who are not in HO to understand how they feel about the health care services they receive through the FFS program.
- □ The survey focuses on members' experiences and medical care during **the first 6 months of 1998**. A six month period makes the survey results more meaningful to purchasers and members who use them to compare plans, and to health plan staff who use them to improve care and services for members.
- The results will be used by MAA to evaluate the quality of health care and services in both the HO and FFS programs.

### QUESTIONNAIRE

The survey uses the most recent national standardized questionnaires, Consumer Assessment of Health Plans:

Health Care Quality Information
From the Consumer Perspective

- □ CAHPS questionnaires were developed and extensively tested by the CAHPS Consortium, a group of national survey experts associated with Harvard Medical School, RAND, and the Research Triangle Institute.
- CAHPS is a five-year collaborative project sponsored by the U.S. Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) to help consumers identify the best health care plans and services for their needs.
- □ The Medicaid core questionnaire set developed by CAHPS includes separate versions for adults and children. It consists of approximately 65 questions covering topics such as access to care, quality of care, communication between doctors and their patients, health plans' customer service, and overall satisfaction with health plans.

- Overall satisfaction ratings are based on a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being the "worst possible" and 10 being the "best possible". Some questions have a yes/no format. Others ask the consumer to rate a health care issue as "big problem", "small problem", or "not a problem". Still others ask about the frequency of occurrences with response choices "always", "usually", "sometimes", or "never".
- ☐ The survey includes supplemental questions specific to children and adults with chronic conditions or disabilities.

### WHO CONDUCTED THE SURVEY?

### The survey was conducted by an independent, outside organization, not associated with any health plan.

- □ MAA contracted with the Oregon Medical Professional Review Organization (OMPRO), an independent external review organization, to conduct the survey.
- OMPRO administered the survey, analyzed the data, and prepared most of the survey results for this report.

### SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

# The HO samples used for the survey were selected randomly from each health plan. The FFS samples were randomly selected from the SSI and GAU programs in Medicaid.

- □ Separate samples of adults and children from each of the 12 HO plans were selected. Responses for 2 plans who merged (Group Health Cooperative and Group Health Northwest) were later combined by randomly selecting half from each sample. One plan (Providence Health Care) is not reported here since MAA no longer contracts with it. The adult samples consisted of members 18 years or older at the time of the survey; the sample for children consisted of members who were 17 years or younger.
- Separate samples of adults and children participating in Social Supplemental Income (SSI) and General Assistance Unemployable (GAU) programs were also selected for the survey.
- □ Responses to children's surveys were provided by a parent or other adult.
- □ To participate in the survey, HO members must have been in their plans for at least 6 consecutive months. FFS clients must have been on Medicaid for 6 consecutive months and not enrolled in a HO health plan during that period.

### HEALTH PLANS IN THIS SURVEY

### MAA surveyed members from all 12 contracted HO plans.

Premera Blue Cross
Community Health Plan of Washington
Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound
Group Health Northwest
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Northwest
Kitsap Physicians Service
Aetna US Healthcare
Providence Health Plan
QualMed Health Plan
QualMed Health Plan
Regence BlueShield
Southwest Washington Medical Direct (CUP)
Northwest Medical Bureau

### SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The survey was administered in English by mail and then followed by telephone interviews. Participation was voluntary and confidential.

- □ A total of 23,145 HO and 3,643 FFS clients were surveyed. All those in the sample who did not return the mail surveys were called and asked to respond to the survey by telephone.
- □ All respondents were told either in a letter or by telephone interviewers that their answers would be private, that they would

not be identified in any reports, and that their benefits would not be affected whether or not they chose to respond to the survey.

- □ A total of 10,591 surveys were completed (about 420 adults and 480 children from each plan).
- □ The response rate for HO and FFS surveys was 37.2 percent and 44.4 percent, respectively. The total HO and FFS combined response rate was about 41 percent.

### DATA ANALYSIS

One of the fundamental principles of CAHPS has been to develop the survey questionnaires and reporting products in tandem. The CAHPS Reporting Kit provides specific instructions for data analysis. To facilitate accuracy and consistency, the CAHPS development team designed a widely used statistical software program to use in analyzing and reporting the data.

Portions of the following sections are reprinted or paraphrased, with permission, from the CAHPS<sup>TM</sup> 1.0 Survey and Reporting Kit, produced by Westat, which is sponsored by the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, AHCPR Publication No. 97-0063, December 1997.

Responses to the items in the CAHPS questionnaires are grouped in three categories, each of which requires a slightly different type of data analysis: overall ratings, single items, and composites. The software program computes response distributions and plan averages for these categories. The data are presented in bar graphs to show distribution of responses and in summary comparison charts with star symbols to show differences among plans.

### **Overall Ratings**

The presentation of the survey results begins with respondents' overall assessments in four areas, using a scale from 0 to 10:

- the health plan;
- the quality of the care they receive;
- their personal doctor; and
- specialists.

### **Composites**

When a survey covers many topics, a comprehensive report including results for each question would be overwhelming to readers. To keep the reporting of CAHPS survey results comprehensive, yet of reasonable length, CAHPS developed and tested groupings of related questionnaire items, termed "composites". Testing during the development of CAHPS showed that consumers found these composites easy to understand and were satisfied with the level of detail they provided. The 1998 survey composites covered the following areas:

- getting needed care
- getting care without long waits
- how well doctors communicate
- courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff
- health plan customer service and paperwork

### **Single Items**

When a topic does not fit within a composite, CAHPS results are presented as single items. Topics such as whether it is easy for those

enrolled in plans to get referrals to specialists, or whether clients has problems with prescription medicine are examples of single items.

### **Comparison Star Charts**

The star charts show whether or not plans differ significantly from the average for all plans. Stars are assigned to show a relative value for each plan's performance, i.e., how does one plan perform in relation to another plan. These comparison charts reflect statistically significant differences among plans. The stars are derived by assigning a numeric value to answers given by respondents and then calculating the averages for each plan.

Stars are assigned in the comparison charts to reflect differences among health plans. A 2-step method was used. First, the CAHPS program tests to determine if any of the plan means significantly differ (F-test). Preliminary testing offers some protection against assigning a plan one or three stars due to random fluctuations in the sample when there may truly be no meaningful plan differences. If no differences were indicated by the overall F-test, those results were not presented. When the F-test indicated differences, the program further tested to determine if the mean for each plan was different from the overall mean for all plans in the analysis (t-test). This second analysis was used to apply a star rating to each plan.

### HOW DOES THIS REPORT SHOW THE SURVEY RESULTS?

### This report shows the survey results in the following ways:

- Separate reports for adults and children
- Separate reports for HO and FFS
- Results from each HO plan are reported and compared across the 10 HO plans and with the "MCO Avg", the combined average of all HO health plans.
- Aggregate summaries are reported for FFS. Clients in SSI and GAU programs are combined to produce the adult FFS survey results.
- Results are not reported for a health plan if it has *fewer than 85* responses to a measure.

### **Overall Ratings**

### The report first shows a set of charts that compares the overall ratings for each health plan.

- Overall ratings are given for the following items, using a scale from "0" to "10":
  - Personal doctor or nurse
  - **♦** Specialists
  - ♦ Health care

#### ♦ The health plan

### **Composite Measures**

### Bar graphs and star symbols are used to show how the plans compare on each of the five composite measures:

- Getting care that is needed
- Getting care without long waits
- ♦ How well doctors communicate with patients
- ♦ Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff
- ♦ Health plan customer service and paperwork
- □ A set of bar graphs one for each survey topic shows plan differences on the five survey topics and tells which survey questions make up each topic. Next to the plan name is the star symbol that shows which health plans had better or lower scores than the combined average of all 10 plans.
- □ A separate section uses star symbols <u>only</u> to explain plan differences on the five composite measures. These are the same star ratings shown in the section of bar graphs.

### **Single Item Comparisons**

### The actual scores for each health plan on a number of single survey questions are shown.

- □ Single questions include:
  - ♦ How easy it is to get referrals to specialists;
  - ◆ How easy it is to find a personal doctor patients are happy with;

- Days waiting for acute care;
- Problems getting prescription medicine;
- ♦ Single survey questions that make up the composite measures.
- Bar graphs one for each survey question show plan differences on survey questions.

### ABOUT THE CLIENT BROCHURE

### For the first time, a client brochure was developed and sent to new HO enrollees in 1999.

- The brochure was tested through interviews with HO members.
- □ The brochure is county-specific and user-friendly.
- The brochure has been translated into 7 languages and sent to newly eligible HO members.
- ☐ The brochure reports the plan-specific survey results on the five "composite" measures:
  - Getting care that is needed
  - Getting care without long waits
  - ♦ How well doctors communicate with patients
  - Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff
  - ♦ Health plan customer service and paperwork
- A study is under way to collect feedback about the brochure from selected HO members.

### ABOUT THE STAR SYMBOLS

- Since this survey is based on responses from a *sample* of (not all) eligible HO members from each health plan, the results have a "margin of error". If differences in plan scores fall within the "margin of error", the differences are not real, but a factor of sampling variation.
- □ The stars show which health plan scores are significantly better or worse than the survey average (all plans combined).
  - ◆ If a plan score is significantly higher than the survey average, it gets three stars.
  - ◆ If a plan score is significantly lower than the survey average, it gets one star.
  - ◆ Two stars indicate the plan is neither higher nor lower than the average score for all plans combined.
- □ For larger sample sizes, smaller differences are needed for the plan to be statistically significant from the survey average. The reverse is also true.
- □ The plan comparisons shown by the stars take into account the number of responses to the survey questions. The fewer the responses to a question, the bigger the difference is needed to be statistically significant from the survey average.
- □ The plan comparisons shown by the stars include adjustments so that differences in **age** and **health status** of respondents do not affect the plan comparisons.

### All plan comparisons in this report use a significance level of p<=.05.

Use of this statistical method means that there is one chance in 20 that a "better than average" or "below average" result was by chance or sample variability rather than because there is a real difference. In general, the bigger the sample, the lower the margin of error – and the more confidence that the responses from the sample are similar to the results that would have been obtained if every person in the eligible population had been surveyed.

### It takes a bigger difference to be statistically significant for some topics than others

- ☐ In this survey, the margin of error differs from topic to topic, because the number of responses to each question differs.
- Most survey questions are about specific experiences respondents have had. Respondents did not need to answer questions that asked about experiences they did not have in the first 6 months of 1998 (the survey reference period). This means that the number of responses can differ substantially from question to question.

For example: Since most people saw their doctors in the first 6 months of 1998, the number of answers to the questions about how well doctors communicated is quite high. The number of answers to the question that asked "how much of a problem, if any, was it to see a specialist you needed to see?" is much smaller, because many people did not need to see specialists in the first 6 months of 1998.

In this example, the margin of error for the survey question of referrals to see specialists is larger than the margin of error for the question about doctor's communication with patients. For a health plan to be statistically significant from the survey average, it requires a bigger difference in percentages for the topic of referral services than the topic on doctor's communication.

### CAUTIONS TO INTERPRETING THE SURVEY RESULTS

# While it is natural to want to compare results between HO and FFS clients when similar questions are being asked, it is important to keep in mind that the two groups of clients are very different.

- □ HO and FFS are both Medicaid programs, but they are very different health care delivery systems. HO provides clients a "medical home" and an assigned primary care provider who refers clients to specialists. MAA does not obligate providers to see FFS clients and clients may be able to see specialists without a referral. In the FFS system, decisions about the authorization of care are made by the provider, the client, and the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA), not by a health plan
- Client characteristics between the two groups also differ in important ways: health status, age, sex, and health care and services utilization, etc. Some of these differences have been shown to affect client's experiences with and perceptions about health care and health care services. The following table presents a comparison of client characteristics between HO and FFS. The results are based on the current client satisfaction survey.

### A comparison of sample characteristics between HO and FFS

Sample Characteristics	НО	FFS
Self-reported health status:		
"Poor" (Adult sample)	5.6%	22.7%
Self-reported health status:		
"Excellent" (Adult sample)	12.4%	4.6%
Self-reported health status:		
"Excellent" (Child sample)	48.4%	15.7%
Women (Adult sample)	89.4%	57%
Between 18 and 34 years old		
(Adult sample)	61%	21.3%
Between 45 and 64 years old		
(Adult sample)	8.8%	48.9%
"Never" been to Emergency Room in the first 6 months of 1998 (Child sample)	83.3%	73.4%
"Never" been to Emergency Room in the first 6 months of 1998 (Adult Sample)	75.7%	64.9%
Visited PCP <b>4 or more times</b> in the first 6 months of 1998 (Child sample)	15.9%	28.4%
Visited PCP 4 or more times in the first 6 months of 1998 (Adult sample)	37%	46%

## Survey results - HO children's care

### **Overall Ratings**

Ratings of children's personal doctor

On a scale from:

to

### Question 7: Rate your child's personal doctor or nurse

Premera Blue Cross	22% 37%	42%
Community Health Plan of Washington	18% 35%	47%
CUP	20% 35%	45%
Group Health Cooperative	25% 41%	34%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	21% 42%	37%
Kitsap Physicians Service	25% 33%	42%
Northwest Medical Bureau	16% 37%	47%
Aetna US Healthcare	22% 35%	43%
QualMed Health Plan	25% 33%	42%
Regence BlueShield	17% 34%	49%
MCO Avg	21% 36%	43%
	□0 Thru 7 □8	8 or 9 □ 10

### **Overall Ratings**

### Ratings of children's health care

On a scale from:

to

### Question 38: Rate your child's health care

Premera Blue Cross	21%	36%	43%
Community Health Plan of Washington	27%	34%	39%
CUP	22%	40%	37%
Group Health Cooperative	23%	44%	33%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	27%	44%	30%
Kitsap Physicians Service	24%	35%	41%
Northwest Medical Bureau	18%	38%	45%
Aetna US Healthcare	23%	36%	41%
QualMed Health Plan	22%	40%	38%
Regence BlueShield	21%	34%	45%
MCO Avg	23%	38%	39%
	□0 Thi	ru 7 □8 (	Dr 9 □ 10

### **Overall Ratings**

Ratings of children's health plan

On a scale from:

to

### Question 61: Rate your child's health plan

Premera Blue Cross	200/	260/	240/
Flemera blue Closs	30%	36%	34%
Community Health Plan of Washington	39%	28%	33%
CUP	28%	41%	31%
Group Health Cooperative	28%	44%	29%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	30%	37%	33%
Kitsap Physicians Service	30%	40%	30%
Northwest Medical Bureau	27%	35%	38%
Aetna US Healthcare	35%	33%	32%
QualMed Health Plan	36% 33%		31%
Regence BlueShield	30% 36%		34%
MCO AVG	31%	36%	33%

### Composite Measure 1: Getting care that is needed

Four survey questions asked parents *if they had problems*:

- ☐ Finding a personal doctor they are happy with
- □ Getting referrals to see specialists
- □ Getting necessary care
- ☐ Getting care approved without delays from the health plan
- \*\*\* Better than survey average
- \*\* Average
- \* Below survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

#### Getting care that is needed

	** Premera Blue Cross	83%	12% 5%
*	Community Health Plan of Washington	77%	15% 8%
	** CUP	83%	12% 6%
	*** Group Health Cooperative	87%	10% 3%
	*** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	87%	9% 4%
	** Kitsap Physicians Service	83%	12% 5%
	*** Northwest Medical Bureau	88%	8% 3%
	* Aetna US Healthcare	79%	15% 6%
	** QualMed Health Plan	84%	9% 7%
	** Regence BlueShield	85%	11% 4%
	MCO Avg	84%	11%5%
	□ Not a pro	oblem □Small problem	☐Big problem

### Composite Measure 2: Getting care without long waits

Four survey questions asked parents *how often* they:

- ☐ Got the help or advice they needed when they called the doctor's office
- Got an appointment as soon as they wanted for routine or regular care
- Got care as soon as they wanted for an illness or injury
- □ Waited 15 minutes or less in the waiting room
- \*\*\* **Better** than *survey average*
- \*\* Average
- \* **Below** survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

### Getting care without long waits

** Premera Blue Cross	71%	18%	11%
* Community Health Plan of Washington	53%	20%	27%
** CUP	71%	18%	11%
*** Group Health Cooperative	69%	18%	13%
*** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	61%	24%	15%
** Kitsap Physicians Service	70%	19%	11%
*** Northwest Medical Bureau	75%	17%	8%
* Aetna US Healthcare	71%	18%	11%
** QualMed Health Plan	67%	22%	11%
** Regence BlueShield	72%	19%	9%
MCO Avg	69%	19%	12%
□Always	□Usually	□ Sometimes/	Never

### Composite Measure 3: How well doctors communicated

Four survey questions asked parents *how often* their children's doctors or other health care providers:

- □ Listened to them carefully
- □ Explained things in a way they could understand
- Showed respect for what they had to say
- □ Spent enough time with their children
- \*\*\* Better than survey average
- \*\* Average
  - \* Below survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

#### How well doctors communicated

72%	19%	9%
65%	20%	15%
71%	21%	8%
63%	28%	9%
63%	25%	12%
69%	22%	9%
73%	22%	5%
70%	20%	9%
69%	24%	8%
73%	20%	7%
69%	22%	9%
ays □Usually	□Sometimes/Ne	ver
	65% 71% 63% 63% 69% 73% 70% 69% 73%	65%     20%       71%     21%       63%     28%       63%     25%       69%     22%       70%     20%       69%     24%       73%     20%       69%     24%       73%     20%

## Composite Measure 4: Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff

Two survey questions asked parents *how often* staff at their children's doctor's office:

- □ Treated them with courtesy and respect
- □ Were as helpful as they should be

- \*\*\* Better than survey average
- \*\* Average
- \* Below survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

### Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff

** Premera Blue Cross	74%	18%	8%
* Community Health Plan of Washington	63%	21%	6%
** CUP	70%	22%	3%
** Group Health Cooperative	70%	23%	7%
** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	68%	24%	9%
** Kitsap Physicians Service	74%	20%	6%
*** Northwest Medical Bureau	77%	18%	4%
** Aetna US Healthcare	73%	21%	6%
*** QualMed Health Plan	76%	18%	5%
*** Regence BlueShield	78%	16%	6%
MCO Avg	72%	20%	8%
		0 11 11	
□Al	ways □Usually	☐ Sometimes/Nev	er/

### Composite Measure 5: Health plan's customer service and paperwork

Two survey questions asked parents *if they had problems*:

- ☐ Getting the help they needed when they called the health plan's customer office
- Paperwork related to getting care (such as problems with getting their health plan ID card or having their medical records changed)
- \*\*\* Better than survey average
- \*\* Average
- \* **Below** survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

#### Health plan's customer service and paperwork

** Premera Blue Cross	57%	26% 17%
** Community Health Plan of Washington	55%	23% 22%
** CUP	56%	33% 11%
** Group Health Cooperative	60%	23%   17%
*** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	57%	32% 11%
** Kitsap Physicians Service	54%	27% 19%
** Northwest Medical Bureau	54%	31% 15%
* Aetna US Healthcare	40%	35% 25%
** QualMed Health Plan	51%	30% 18%
** Regence BlueShield	51%	32% 17%
MCO Avg	54%	29% 17%
□ Not a proble	em □Small pro	oblem ☐Big problem

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 4**

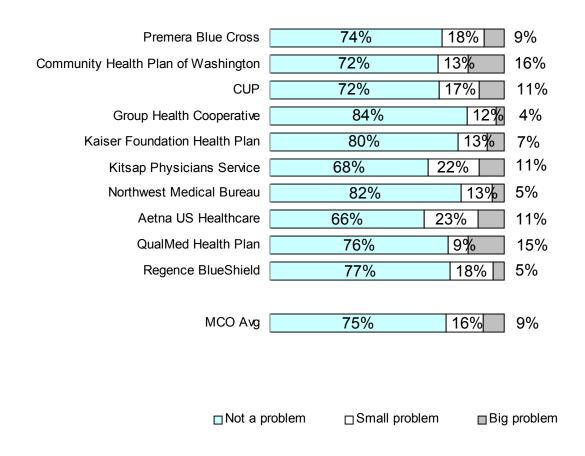
Survey respondents were asked:

"With the choices your health plan gave you, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get a personal doctor or nurse you are happy with?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated that they did get a new doctor or nurse when they joined the health plan.

### Q4 Problems finding a personal doctor (N=1,854)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 9**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get a referral to a specialist that your child needed to see?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child needed to see a specialist in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q9 Problems getting referrals to specialist (N=872)

Premera Blue Cross	69%	14%	17%
Community Health Plan of Washington	66%	24%	10%
CUP	66%	18%	16%
Group Health Cooperative	65%	20%	15%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	73%	15%	12%
Kitsap Physicians Service	67%	20%	13%
Northwest Medical Bureau	78%	14%	9%
Aetna US Healthcare	64%	23%	13%
QualMed Health Plan	65%	15%	19%
Regence BlueShield	69%	15%	16%
MCO Avg	68%	18%	14%
□ Not a	problem □Small prob	olem	oroblem

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Ouestion 14**

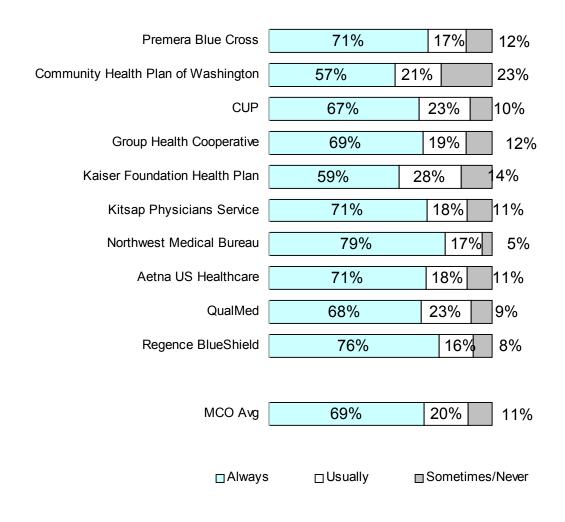
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, when you called during regular office hours, how often did you get the help or advice you needed <u>for your child</u>?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who had called a doctor's office or clinic at least once during regular office hours in the first 6 months of 1998

### Q14 Got help or advice needed from doctor's office (N=2,795)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 16**

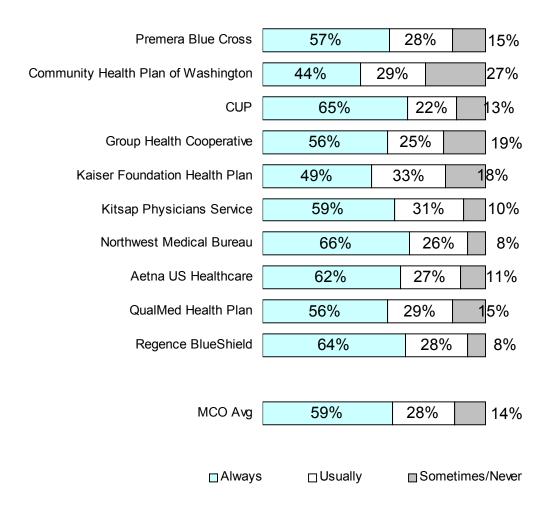
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did your child get an appointment for <u>regular or routine</u> health care as soon as you wanted?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by respondents who indicated that their child had made an appointment with a doctor or other health provider in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q16 Got routine care as soon as wanted (N=2,614)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 19**

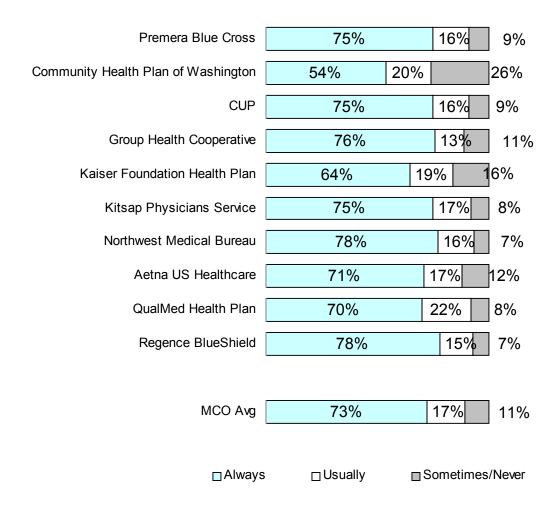
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, when your child needed care right away for an illness or injury, how often did your child get care as soon as you wanted?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had had illness or injury that needed care right away from a doctor's office, clinic, or emergency room in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q19 Got acute care as soon as wanted (N=1,830)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 20**

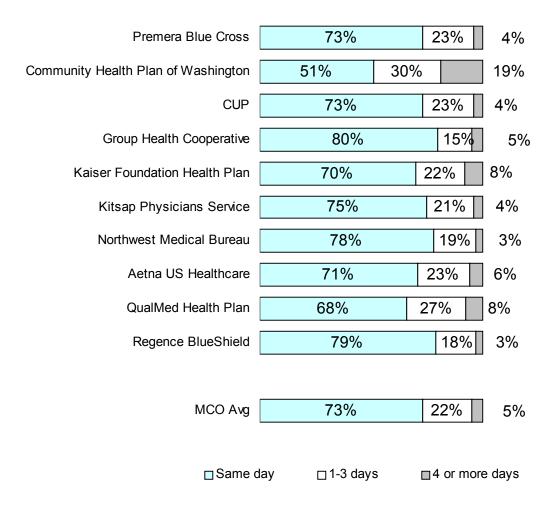
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how long did your child usually have to wait between trying to get care and actually seeing a provider for an <u>illness or</u> <u>injury</u>?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had had an illness or injury that needed care right away during regular office hours in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q20 Days waiting for acute care (N=1,812)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 23**

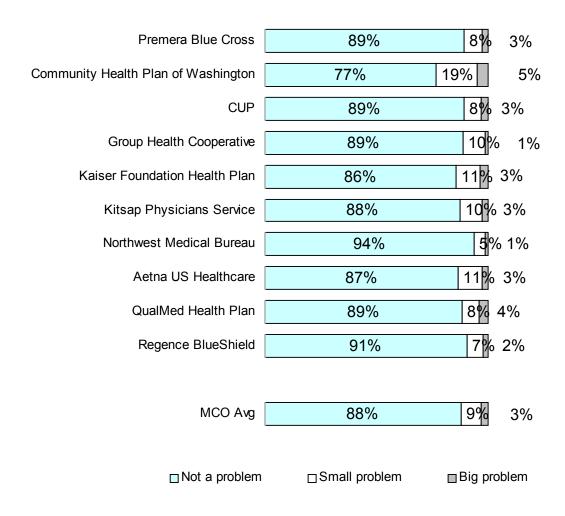
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get care for your child that you or a doctor believed necessary?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had been to a doctor or clinic in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q23 Problems getting the care necessary (N=3,355)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 24**

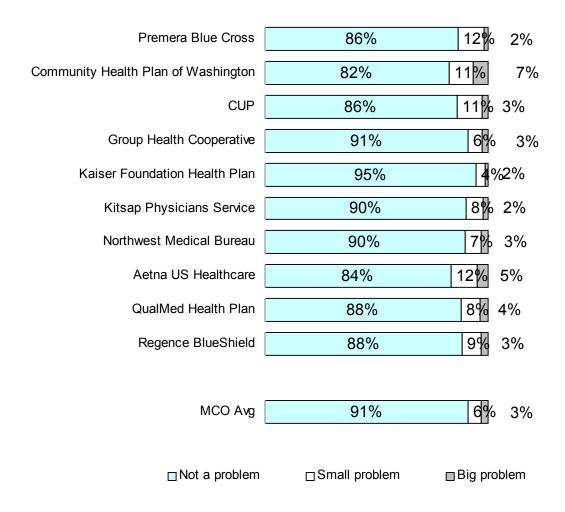
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, were delays in your child's health care while you waited for approval by your child's health plan?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had been to a doctor or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q24 Problems getting care delayed due to approval (N=3,356)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 25**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did your child wait in the doctor's office or clinic more than 15 minutes past the appointment time to see the person your child went to see?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had been to a doctor or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q25 Waiting for less than 15 minutes to see the doctor (N=3,239)

Premera Blue Cross	37%	43%	20%
Community Health Plan of Washington	21%	37%	42%
CUP	35%	42%	23%
Group Health Cooperative	39%	35%	26%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	30%	41%	30%
Kitsap Physicians Service	31%	43%	26%
Northwest Medical Bureau	34%	44%	23%
Aetna US Healthcare	35%	44%	21%
QualMed Health Plan	30%	43%	26%
Regence BlueShield	32%	40%	29%
MCO Avg	33%	41%	25%
□Always	□Usuall	у 🗆	Sometimes/Never

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 26**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did office staff at your child's doctor's office or clinic treat you and your child with <u>courtesy and respect?"</u>

#### Note:

This question was answered by respondents who indicated that their child had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q26 Office staff treated patients with courtesy and respect (N=3,357)

Premera Blue Cross	80%	13%	7%
Community Health Plan of Washington	73%	14%	13%
CUP	79%	15%	6%
Group Health Cooperative	78%	17%	6%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	74%	19%	6%
Kitsap Physicians Service	84%	13%	4%
Northwest Medical Bureau	84%	12%	4%
Aetna US Healthcare	79%	16%	5%
QualMed Health Plan	82%	13%	4%
Regence BlueShield	82%	13%	4%
MCO Avg	80%	15%	6%
□Always	□Usually	☐Sometimes/N	Never

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 27**

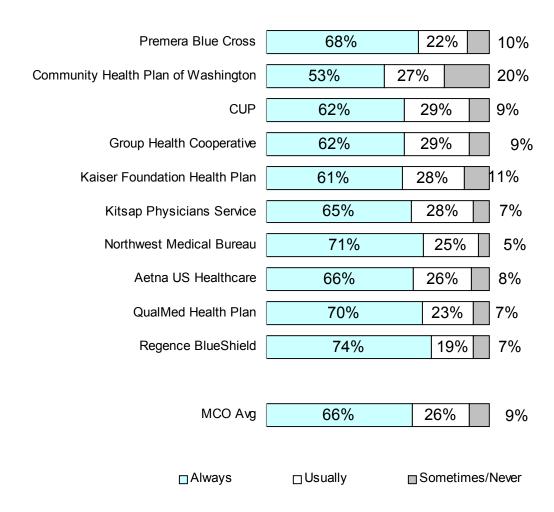
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often were office staff at your child's doctor's office or clinic as <u>helpful</u> as you thought they should be?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by respondents who indicated that their child had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q27 Office staff were helpful (N=3,344)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 28**

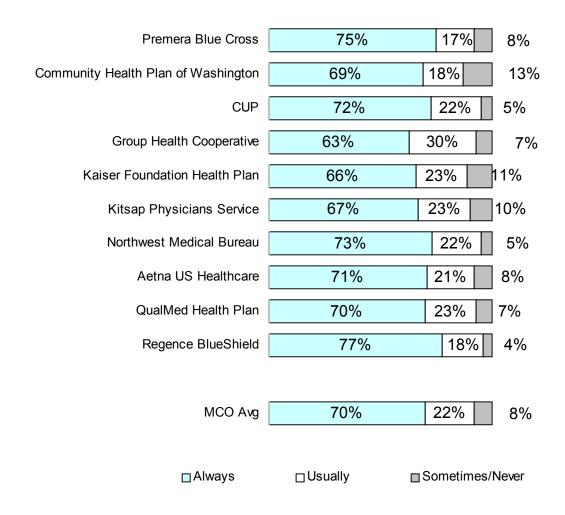
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did your child's doctors or other health providers <u>listen carefully to you?</u>"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had been to a doctor or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q28 Doctors listened carefully to you (N=3,351)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 30**

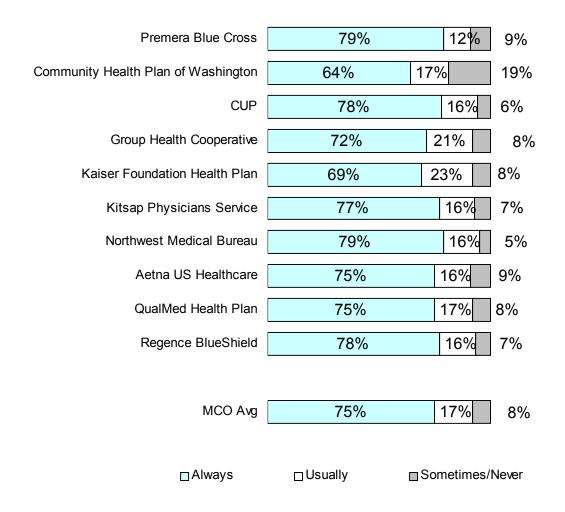
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did your child's doctors or other health providers <u>explain things</u> in a way you could understand?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had been to a doctor or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q30 Doctors explained things so you could understand (N=3,330)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 31**

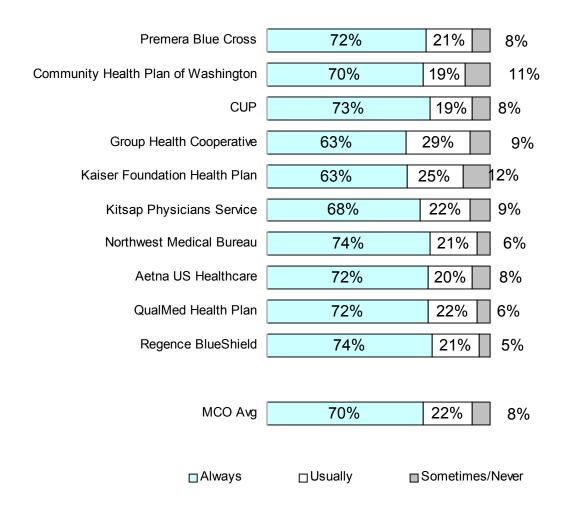
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did your child's doctors or other health providers show respect for what you had to say?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had been to a doctor or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q31 Doctors showed respect for what you had to say (N=3,319)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 32**

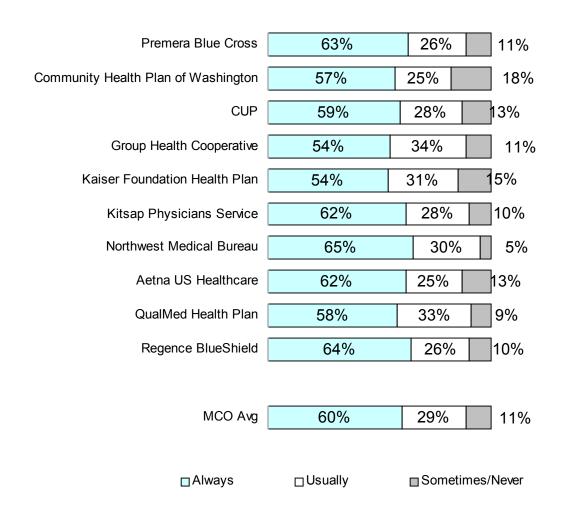
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did your child's doctors or other health providers <u>spend enough time</u> with your child?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had been to a doctor or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q32 Doctors spent enough time with patients (N=3,298)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 33**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, have any of your child's doctors or other health providers talked with you about skills you need to take care of your child?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had taken their child to a doctor's office or clinic in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q33 Doctors talked to parents about skills needed to take care of child (N=3,319)

Premera Blue Cross	46%	54%
Community Health Plan of Washington	56%	44%
CUP	45%	55%
Group Health Cooperative	45%	55%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	43%	57%
Kitsap Physicians Service	45%	55%
Northwest Medical Bureau	46%	54%
Aetna US Healthcare	44%	56%
QualMed Health Plan	42%	58%
Regence BlueShield	43%	57%
MCO Avg	45%	55%
	□Yes	□No

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 34**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, have any of your child's doctors or other health providers given you reassurance about the care you are providing for your child?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had taken their child to a doctor's office or clinic in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q34 Doctors gave reassurance about care for child (N=3,322)

Premera Blue Cross	77%	23%
Community Health Plan of Washington	74%	26%
CUP	76%	24%
Group Health Cooperative	70%	30%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	72%	28%
Kitsap Physicians Service	76%	24%
Northwest Medical Bureau	79%	21%
Aetna US Healthcare	77%	23%
QualMed Health Plan	80%	20%
Regence BlueShield	77%	23%
MCO Avg	76%	24%
	□Yes	□No

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 36**

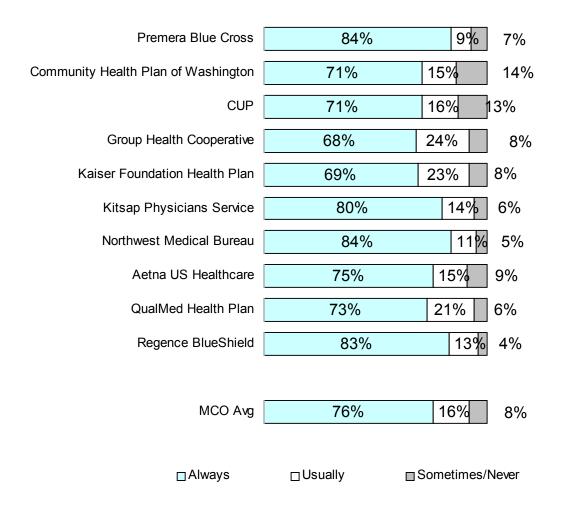
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often were you involved as much as you wanted in the decisions about your child's health care?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they made decisions about their child's health care in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q36 Parents involved as much as wanted in child's care decisions (N=1,441)



### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 54**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get the help you needed when you called your child's health plan's customer office?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by respondents who indicated that they had called the health plan's customer service to get information in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q54 Problems getting help from health plan's customer service (N=949)

Premera Blue Cross	58%	21%	21%
CUP	57%	30%	13%
Group Health Cooperative	64%	17%	19%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	52%	37%	11%
Kitsap Physicians Service	51%	23%	26%
Northwest Medical Bureau	49%	32%	19%
Aetna US Healthcare	39%	37%	24%
QualMed Health Plan	50%	33%	17%
Regence BlueShield	53%	28%	19%
MCO Avg	52%	29%	19%
□ Not a problem □ Small problem □ Big probl			

#### **Note:**

Results for Community Health Plan of Washington are not reported due to small number of responses (N<85) to this question for the plan.

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 60**

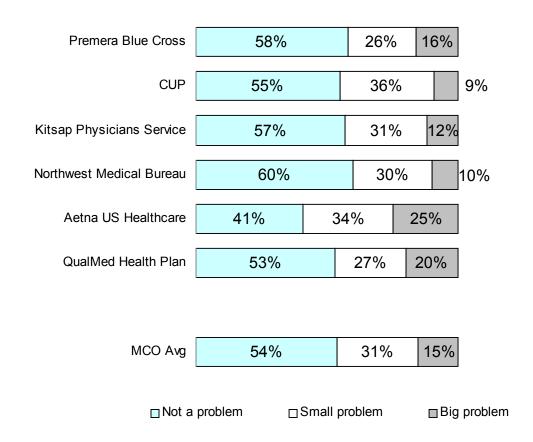
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, did you have with paperwork for your child's health plan?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by respondents who indicated that they had had experiences with paperwork for the child's health plan in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q60 Problems with paperwork for health plan (N=620)



Note:

Results are not reported for the following plans due to small number of responses (N<85):

Community Health Plan of Washington

Group Health Cooperative

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan

Regence BlueShield

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 63**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get your child's prescription medicine at the drug store or pharmacy?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they did get a new prescription or had a prescription refilled in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q63 Problems getting child's prescription medicine (N=2,361)

Premera Blue Cross	84%	12%	4%
Community Health Plan of Washington	78%	15%	7%
CUP	80%	12%	8%
Group Health Cooperative	87%	11%	2%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	87%	10%	3%
Kitsap Physicians Service	87%	10%	3%
Northwest Medical Bureau	78%	17%	5%
Aetna US Healthcare	77%	17%	5%
QualMed Health Plan	77%	16%	7%
Regence BlueShield	82%	12%	6%
MCO Avg	82%	13%	5%
□ Not a problem	□Small problem	□Big pro	blem

### Here are the summary results for:

\*\*\* Better than survey average

\*\* Average

\* Below survey average

## HO Children's Care

Health Plan	Getting care that is needed	Getting care without long waits	How well doctors communicated	Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff	Health plan's customer service and paperwork
Premera Blue Cross	**	**	**	**	**
Community Health Plan of Washington	*	*	*	*	**
CUP	**	**	**	**	**
Group Health Cooperative	***	**	*	**	**
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	***	*	*	**	***
Kitsap Physicians Service	**	**	**	**	**
Northwest Medical Bureau	***	***	***	***	**
Aetna US Healthcare	*	**	**	**	*
QualMed Health Plan	**	**	**	***	**
Regence BlueShield	**	***	***	***	**

# Survey results - HO adults' care

### **Overall Ratings**

### **Ratings of personal doctor**

On a scale from:

to

## Question 6: Rate your personal doctor or nurse (N=3,091)

Premera Blue Cross	29%	33%	39%
Community Health Plan of Washington	25%	31%	45%
CUP	28%	30%	41%
Group Health Cooperative	27%	36%	36%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	30%	36%	34%
Kitsap Physicians Service	33%	34%	34%
Northwest Medical Bureau	28%	34%	39%
Aetna US Healthcare	34%	28%	38%
QualMed Health Plan	32%	29%	40%
Regence BlueShield	35%	30%	35%
		·	
MCO AVG	30%	32%	38%
	□ 0 Thru 7	□8 (	Or 9 □ 10

### **Overall Ratings**

### **Ratings of specialists**

On a scale from:

to

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated that they had seen a specialist in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Question 10: Rate specialists (N=1,399)

Premera Blue Cross	32%		29%		40%		
Community Health Plan of Washington	36%		27%		37%		
CUP	33%		30%		38%		
Group Health Cooperative	32%		37%		30%		
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	40%	10% 369		%	24%		
Kitsap Physicians Service	29%	;	31%		31% 40%		40%
Northwest Medical Bureau	25%	3	4%	% 41%			
Aetna US Healthcare	33%		27%		40%		
QualMed Health Plan	33%		26%		40%		
Regence BlueShield	34%		31%		35%		
MCO AVG	33%		31%		37%		
	□0 Thru 7	7	□8 O	r 9	□10		

### **Overall Ratings**

### Ratings of health care

On a scale from:

to

#### Question 35: Rate your health care (N=3,843)

	2221	0.404	000/
Premera Blue Cross	38%	34%	28%
Community Health Plan of Washington	38%	34%	28%
Community Health Flam of Washington	30 70	34 70	20 70
CUP	41%	37%	22%
Group Health Cooperative	36%	37%	27%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	40%	38%	22%
Kitsap Physicians Service	35%	36%	29%
Northwest Medical Bureau	32%	35%	33%
Aetna US Healthcare	39%	33%	29%
Actina de Ficaliticare	3970	33 /0	23 /0
QualMed Health Plan	39%	33%	28%
Regence BlueShield	42%	32%	26%
		•	
MCO AVG	38%	35%	27%
	□0 Thru 7	□8 Or 9	□10

### **Overall Ratings**

### Rating of health plan

On a scale from:

to

#### Question 53: Rate your health plan (N=4,121)

Premera Blue Cross	44%	31%	25%
Community Health Plan of Washington	43%	32%	26%
CUP	42%	38%	20%
Group Health Cooperative	39%	39%	22%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	42%	33%	25%
Kitsap Physicians Service	43%	35%	23%
Northwest Medical Bureau	38%	35%	27%
Aetna US Healthcare	48%	33%	19%
QualMed Health Plan	50%	29%	21%
Regence BlueShield	46%	32%	22%
		·	
MCO AVG	44%	34%	23%
	□0 Thru 7	□8 Or 9	□10

## Composite Measure 1: Getting care that is needed

Four survey questions asked respondents *if they had problems*:

- □ Finding a personal doctor they are happy with
- Getting referrals to see specialists
- □ Getting necessary care
- ☐ Getting care approved without delays from the health plan
- \*\*\* Better than survey average
- \*\* Average
- \* Below survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

#### Getting care that is needed

** Premera Blue Cross	70%	18%11%
** Community Health Plan of Washington	68%	20% 12%
** CUP	68%	19%   13%
*** Group Health Cooperative	75%	18% 8%
** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	73%	17%10%
*** Kitsap Physicians Service	76%	16%9%
** Northwest Medical Bureau	74%	16%10%
* Aetna US Healthcare	67%	17% 17%
** QualMed Health Plan	69%	16% 16%
** Regence BlueShield	68%	20%   13%
MCO Avg	71%	18% 12%
□ Not a proble	em □Small problem	Big problem

## Composite Measure 2: Getting care without long waits

Four survey questions asked respondents *how often* they:

- ☐ Got the help or advice they needed when they called the doctor's office
- ☐ Got an appointment as soon as they wanted for routine or regular care
- ☐ Got care as soon as they wanted for an illness or injury
- □ Waited 15 minutes or less in the waiting room
- \*\*\* Better than survey average
- \*\* Average
- \* Below survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

#### Getting care without long waits

	** Premera Blue Cross	56%	18% 26%
*	Community Health Plan of Washington	48%	27% 26%
	* CUP	49%	24% 28%
	*** Group Health Cooperative	57%	15% 28%
	** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	53%	22% 25%
	*** Kitsap Physicians Service	60%	15% 25%
	** Northwest Medical Bureau	58%	20% 22%
	** Aetna US Healthcare	55%	19% 26%
	*** QualMed Health Plan	60%	18% 22%
	** Regence BlueShield	54%	21% 25%
	MCO Avg	55%	20% 25%
	□Always	□Usually	☐ Sometimes/Never

## Composite Measure 3: How well doctors communicated

Four survey questions asked respondents *how often* their doctors or other health care providers:

- □ Listened to them carefully
- □ Explained things in a way they could understand
- □ Showed respect for what they had to say
- □ Spent enough time with them
- \*\*\* Better than survey average
- \*\* Average
- \* Below survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

#### How well doctors communicated

** Premera Blue Cross	55%	29%	16%
** Community Health Plan of Washington	56%	28%	16%
** CUP	51%	29%	20%
** Group Health Cooperative	55%	29%	16%
* Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	47%	33%	19%
** Kitsap Physicians Service	56%	29%	15%
** Northwest Medical Bureau	59%	24%	17%
** Aetna US Healthcare	56%	28%	16%
** QualMed Health Plan	58%	24%	18%
** Regence BlueShield	53%	29%	18%
MCO Avg	55%	28%	17%
□Always	□Usually	□Som	netimes/Never

### Composite Measure 4: Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff

Two survey questions asked respondents *how often* staff at their doctor's office:

- □ Treated them with courtesy and respect
- □ Were as helpful as they should be
- \*\*\* Better than survey average
- \*\* Average
- \* Below survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

#### Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff

** Premera Blue Shield	63%	26% 12%
** Community Health Plan of Washington	58%	26% 16%
** Southwest Washington Medical Direct	57%	30% 14%
** Group Health Cooperative	65%	25% 10%
* Kaiser Permanente of Northwest	53%	35% 12%
*** Kitsap Physicians Service	66%	25% 9%
** Northwest Medical Bureau	64%	26% 11%
** Aetna US Healthcare	60%	25%   15%
** QualMed Health Plan	62%	25%   13%
** Regence BlueShield	61%	26%   13%
MCO Avg	61%	27% 12%
□Always	□Usually	☐ Sometimes/Never

### Composite Measure 5: Health plan's customer service and paperwork

Two survey questions asked respondents *if they had problems*:

- □ Getting the help they needed when they called the health plan's customer office
- Paperwork related to getting care (such as problems with getting their health plan ID card or having their medical records changed)
- \*\*\* **Better** than *survey* average
- \*\* Average
- \* **Below** survey average

**Note:** The bar graph represents raw percentages of responses for all questions contributing to the composite. Star ratings represent relative ratings of overall MCO means, adjusted for age and health status. These two different figures may not always be consistent due to these adjustments.

#### Health plan's customer service and paperwork

** Premera Blue Cross	58%	25%	% 18%
** Community Health Plan of Washington	54%	21%	25%
** CUP	52%	29%	19%
** Group Health Cooperative	57%	289	% 16%
** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	57%	22%	6 20%
***Kitsap Physicians Service	57%	279	% 17%
** Northwest Medical Bureau	52%	30%	19%
* Aetna US Healthcare	40%	27%	33%
* Aetna US Healthcare  ** QualMed Health Plan	40%	27%	23%
** QualMed Health Plan	49%	28%	23%
** QualMed Health Plan	49%	28%	23%
** QualMed Health Plan  ** Regence BlueShield	49%	28%	23%

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 4**

Survey respondents were asked:

"With the choices your health plan gave you, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get a personal doctor or nurse you are happy with?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they did get a new doctor or nurse when they joined the health plan.

### Q4 Finding a doctor you are happy with (N=2,114)

Premera Blue Cross	59%	26%	15%
Community Health Plan of Washington	57%	23%	20%
CUP	58%	20%	21%
Group Health Cooperative	70%	22	2% 8%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	68%	19%	<b>6</b> 14%
Kitsap Physicians Service	62%	23%	14%
Northwest Medical Bureau	60%	25%	15%
Aetna US Healthcare	58%	18%	24%
QualMed Health Plan	61%	17%	23%
Regence BlueShield	60%	25%	15%
MCO Avg	62%	22%	17%
□ Not a pro	oblem ☐Small prob	lem	■Big problem

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 8**

Survey respondents were asked:

"With the choices your health plan gave you, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get a referral to a specialist that you needed to see?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they needed to see a specialist.

#### Q8 Problems getting referrals to a specialist (N=1,627)

Premera Blue Cross	65%	13% 22%
Community Health Plan of Washington	62%	21% 17%
CUP	63%	20% 17%
Group Health Cooperative	71%	16% 13%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	69%	18%   13%
Kitsap Physicians Service	67%	18% 15%
Northwest Medical Bureau	71%	17% 13%
Aetna US Healthcare	61%	14% 25%
QualMed Health Plan	56%	14% 30%
Regence BlueShield	62%	15% 23%
MCO Avg	65%	17% 19%
□Not a pro	oblem ☐ Small pro	blem  □Big problem

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 13**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, when you called during regular office hours, how often did you get the help or advice you needed?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had called a doctor's office or clinic during regular office hours at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q13 Got the help or advice needed from doctor's office (N=2,930)

Premera Blue Cross	54%	30%	16%
Community Health Plan of Washington	47%	26%	27%
CUP	47%	26%	27%
Group Health Cooperative	57%	30%	<b>/</b> 13%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	52%	27%	21%
Kitsap Physicians Service	59%	26%	6 15%
Northwest Medical Bureau	60%	20%	21%
Aetna US Healthcare	48%	33%	19%
QualMed Health Plan	57%	24%	19%
Regence BlueShield	52%	27%	21%
MCO Avg	53%	27%	20%
□Always	usually	<b>-</b> 5	Sometimes/Never

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 15**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did you get an appointment for <u>regular or routine</u> health care as soon as you wanted?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had made appointments with a doctor or other health provider for regular or routine care in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q15 Got routine care as soon as wanted (N=2,904)

Premera Blue Cross	50%	29%	21%
Community Health Plan of Washington	41%	32%	27%
CUP	42%	32%	26%
Group Health Cooperative	45%	37%	18%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	40%	32%	29%
Kitsap Physicians Service	48%	32%	19%
Northwest Medical Bureau	49%	31%	20%
Aetna US Healthcare	48%	30%	22%
QualMed Health Plan	54%	26%	20%
Regence BlueShield	51%	28%	22%
MCO Avg	47%	31%	22%
□Always	s □Usual	ly 🔲	Sometimes/Nev

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 18**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, when you needed care right away for an illness or injury, how often did you get care as soon as you wanted?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had had illness or injury that needed care right away from a doctor's office, clinic, or emergency room in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q18 Got acute care as soon as wanted (N=2,062)

Premera Blue Cross	54%	28	3%	19%	
Community Health Plan of Washington	41%	26%	33%		
CUP	46%	46% 31%		24%	
Group Health Cooperative	50%	31	%	19%	
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	48%	26%		26%	
Kitsap Physicians Service	61%		23%	16%	
Northwest Medical Bureau	62%		19%	19%	
Aetna US Healthcare	49%	27%	o	25%	
QualMed Health Plan	58% 23		23%	19%	
Regence BlueShield	53%	25	%	22%	
MCO Avg	52%	26	%	22%	
□Always	s □Usuall	у	<b>□</b> So	metimes/N	lever

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 19**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how long did you usually have to wait between trying to get care and actually seeing a provider for an <u>illness or injury</u>?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had had an illness or injury that needed care right away in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q19 Days waiting for acute care (N=1,989)

Premera Blue Cross	40%		41%	19%		
Community Health Plan of Washington	33%	40%		33% 40% 27		27%
CUP	27%	27% 46%		46% 28%		28%
Group Health Cooperative	46%		35%	19%		
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	42%	42% 32%		26%		
Kitsap Physicians Service	47%		39%	14%		
Northwest Medical Bureau	38%	38% 36%		26%		
Aetna US Healthcare	34%		41%	25%		
QualMed Health Plan	44%	44% 38%		19%		
Regence BlueShield	47%		34%	19%		
MCO Avg	40%		38%	22%		
□Same c	lay □1	to 3	days	□4 days or more		

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 22**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get the care you or a doctor believed necessary?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor's office or clinic to get care at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q22 Problems getting necessary care (N=3,331)

Premera Blue Cross	76%	16%8%
Community Health Plan of Washington	70%	22% 9%
CUP	71%	19% 11%
Group Health Cooperative	76%	17% 7%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	71%	21% 8%
Kitsap Physicians Service	78%	16%6%
Northwest Medical Bureau	77%	15% 9%
Aetna US Healthcare	72%	17% 11%
QualMed Health Plan	78%	14%9%
Regence BlueShield	71%	19% 10%
MCO Avg	74%	17% 9%
□ Not a pro	oblem □Small proble	em

### Single Item Measure

#### Question 23

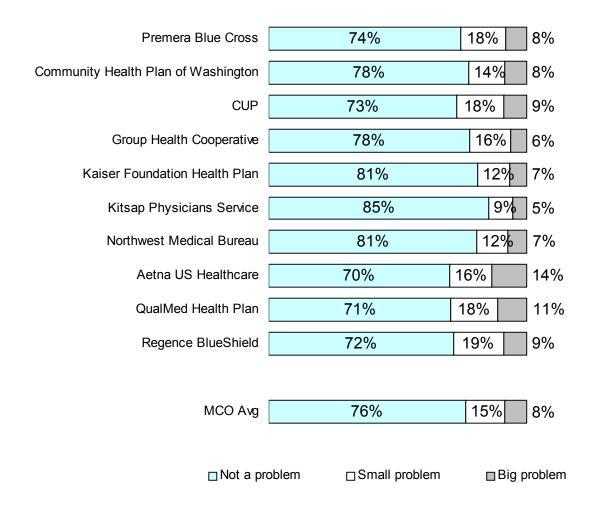
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, were delays in your health care while you waited for approval by your health plan?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q23 Problems getting care delayed due to approval (N=3,329)



### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 24**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did you wait in the doctor's office or clinic more than 15 minutes past your appointment time to see the person you went to see?"

#### **Note:**

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q24 Saw the doctor within 15 minutes (N=3,344)

Premera Blue Cross	21%	44%	35%
Community Health Plan of Washington	20%	38%	42%
CUP	19%	39%	42%
Group Health Cooperative	27%	44%	29%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	24%	43%	33%
Kitsap Physicians Service	25%	46%	29%
Northwest Medical Bureau	22%	41%	37%
Aetna US Healthcare	27%	46%	28%
QualMed Health Plan	24%	45%	31%
Regence BlueShield	20%	39%	40%
MCO Avg	23%	43%	34%
□Always	3	□Usually	☐ Sometimes/Never

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 25**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did office staff at a doctor's office or clinic treat you with <u>courtesy and respect?</u>"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q25 Courtesy and respect from office staff at doctor's office (N=3,345)

Premera Blue Cross	70%	22% 9%
Community Health Plan of Washington	66%	22% 12%
CUP	66%	25% 9%
Group Health Cooperative	74%	17% 8%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	60%	31% 9%
Kitsap Physicians Service	72%	22% 6%
Northwest Medical Bureau	73%	17% 10%
Aetna US Healthcare	67%	19%   14%
QualMed Health Plan	70%	21% 10%
Regence BlueShield	70%	21% 9%
MCO Avg	69%	22% 9%
□Always	□Usually	☐ Sometimes/Never

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 26**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often were office staff at a doctor's office or clinic as helpful as you thought they should be?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q26 Office staff at doctor's office were helpful (N=3,360)

Premera Blue Cross	57%	29%	14%
Community Health Plan of Washington	51%	30%	19%
CUP	47%	35%	18%
Group Health Cooperative	55%	33%	13%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	46%	38%	16%
Kitsap Physicians Service	60%	29%	12%
Northwest Medical Bureau	55%	34%	11%
Aetna US Healthcare	53%	31%	16%
QualMed Health Plan	55%	29%	16%
Regence BlueShield	52%	31%	17%
MCO Avg	53%	32%	15%
□Always	s □Usually	□Som	etimes/Never

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 27**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did doctors or other health providers <u>listen</u> <u>carefully to you?"</u>

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q27 Doctors listened carefully to you (N=3,363)

Premera Blue Cross	56%	27%	17%
Community Health Plan of Washington	56%	28%	16%
CUP	53%	27%	20%
Group Health Cooperative	55%	27%	18%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	45%	34%	21%
Kitsap Physicians Service	57%	28%	15%
Northwest Medical Bureau	62%	21%	17%
Aetna US Healthcare	57%	26%	16%
QualMed Health Plan	58%	24%	17%
Regence BlueShield	56%	27%	17%
MCO Avg	55%	27%	18%
□Always	s □Usually	□Son	netimes/Neve

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 29**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did doctors or other health providers <u>explained</u> things in a way you could understand?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q29 Doctors explained things in a way you could understand (N=3,360)

Premera Blue Cross	63%	23%	14%
Community Health Plan of Washington	62%	24%	14%
CUP	59%	25%	16%
Group Health Cooperative	63%	25%	13%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	58%	28%	13%
Kitsap Physicians Service	62%	27%	12%
Northwest Medical Bureau	63%	23%	14%
Aetna US Healthcare	63%	24%	14%
QualMed Health Plan	63%	22%	15%
Regence BlueShield	59%	26%	16%
MCO Avg	61%	25%	14%
□Always	usually	□Som	etimes/Never

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 30**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did doctors or other health providers show respect for what you had to say?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q30 Doctors showed respect for what you had to say (N=3,356)

Premera Blue Cross	57%	30%	14%
Community Health Plan of Washington	60%	30%	11%
CUP	51%	31%	17%
Group Health Cooperative	56%	31%	13%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	49%	33%	18%
Kitsap Physicians Service	59%	26%	16%
Northwest Medical Bureau	61%	23%	14%
Aetna US Healthcare	58%	29%	13%
QualMed Health Plan	59%	25%	16%
Regence BlueShield	55%	29%	16%
MCO Avg	56%	29%	15%
□Always	usually	□Som	etimes/Never

### **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 31**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often did doctors or other health providers <u>spend</u> enough time with you?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had been to a doctor's office or clinic at least once in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q31 Doctors spent enough time with you (N=3,360)

Premera Blue Cross	45%	34%	21%	
Community Health Plan of Washington	47%	31%	22%	
CUP	43%	31%	26%	
Group Health Cooperative	47%	34%	20%	
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	38%	38%	24%	
Kitsap Physicians Service	47%	35%	18%	
Northwest Medical Bureau	50%	27%	23%	
Aetna US Healthcare	46%	34%	20%	
QualMed Health Plan	51%	27%	22%	
Regence BlueShield	44%	34%	22%	
MCO Avg	46%	33%	22%	
□Always	s □Usually	, □S	ometimes/N	ever

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 33**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often were you involved as much as you wanted in these decisions about your health care?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated decisions had been made about their health care in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q33 Patients involved as much as wanted in own care decisions (N=1,967)

Premera Blue Cross	60%	20%	19%
Community Health Plan of Washington	63%	18%	19%
CUP	59%	23%	19%
Group Health Cooperative	60%	21%	19%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	59%	24%	17%
Kitsap Physicians Service	63%	20%	17%
Northwest Medical Bureau	67%	18%	18%
Aetna US Healthcare	61%	21%	19%
QualMed Health Plan	64%	21%	15%
Regence BlueShield	55%	25%	20%
MCO Avg	61%	21%	18%
□Always	s □Usually	□Sor	netimes/Never

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 46**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get the help you needed when you called your health plan's customer service?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had called health plan's customer service in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q46 Problems getting help needed from health plan's customer service (N=1,620)

Premera Blue Cross	62%		23	8%	14%	
Community Health Plan of Washington	53% 2		20% 2		27%	
CUP	53%		33%		15%	
Group Health Cooperative	60%		25%		15%	
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	62%		22%		16%	
Kitsap Physicians Service	57%		25%		18%	
Northwest Medical Bureau	57%		27%		17%	
Aetna US Healthcare	38%	25%		37°	%	
Aetna US Healthcare QualMed Health Plan	38% 55%	25%	24%		21%	
			24% 24%			
QualMed Health Plan	55%				21%	
QualMed Health Plan	55%			2	21%	
QualMed Health Plan Regence BlueShield	55%		24%	2	21%	

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 52**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, did you have with paperwork for your health plan?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had had some experience with paperwork for their health plans in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q52 Problems with health plan's paperwork (N=1,051)

Premera Blue Cross	52%	26%	22%
Community Health Plan of Washington	56%	23%	22%
CUP	52%	24%	24%
Group Health Cooperative	51%	32%	17%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	51% 23%		26%
Kitsap Physicians Service	56% 28%		16%
Aetna US Healthcare	43% 30%		27%
QualMed Health Plan	41%	33%	26%
Regence BlueShield	46%	32%	23%
MCO Avg	49%	29%	22%
□ Not a pr	oblem □Sm	all problem	□Big problen

Results are not reported for Northwest Medical Bureau due to small number of responses (N<85) to this question for the plan.

### **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 55**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get your prescription medicine at the drug store or pharmacy?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they did get a new prescription or had a prescription refilled in the first 6 months of 1998.

#### Q55 Problems getting prescription medicine (N=3,211)

Premera Blue Cross	80%	15%	6%
Community Health Plan of Washington	74%	18%	7%
CUP	74%	18%	9%
Group Health Cooperative	78%	17%	5%
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	81%	13%	5%
Kitsap Physicians Service	81%	14%	5%
Northwest Medical Bureau	73%	19%	8%
Aetna US Healthcare	73%	17%	10%
QualMed Health Plan	67%	21%	12%
Regence BlueShield	77%	14%	9%
MCO Avg	76%	16%	8%
□ Not a pro	oblem □Small problem	⊟Big p	oroblem

### Here are the summary results for:

HO Adults' Care

**\*\*\* Better** than *survey average* 

\*\* Average

\* Below survey average

Health Plan	Getting care that is needed	Getting care without long waits	How well doctors communicated	Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff	Health plan's customer service and paperwork
Premera Blue Cross	**	**	**	**	**
Community Health Plan of Washington	**	*	**	**	**
CUP	**	*	**	**	**
Group Health Cooperative	***	***	**	**	**
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	**	**	*	*	**
Kitsap Physicians Service	***	***	**	***	***
Northwest Medical Bureau	**	**	**	**	**
Aetna US Healthcare	*	**	**	**	*
QualMed Health Plan	**	***	**	**	**
Regence BlueShield	**	**	**	**	**

# Survey results – FFS children's care

## **Overall Ratings**

Ratings of personal doctor, specialist, health care, and Medical Assistance

On a scale from:

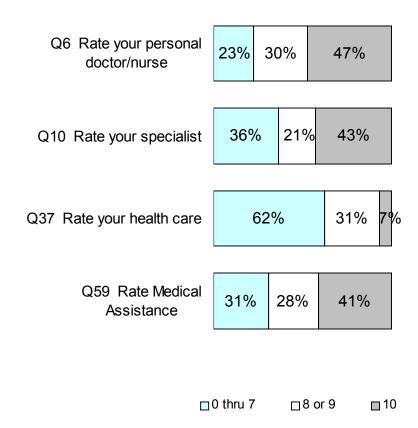
to

"10" = best possible

#### Note:

- Q6 was answered by people who indicated their children had a personal doctor or nurse.
- □ Q10 was answered by people whose children had seen a specialist.

#### **Overall ratings**



## **Composite Measure1:**

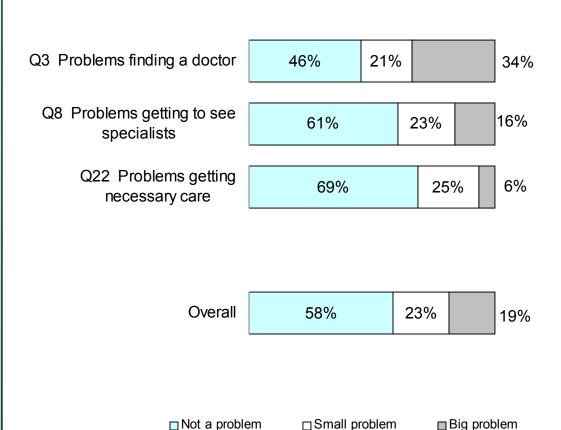
Getting care that is needed

The bar graph shows responses to three survey questions that asked parents if they had problems:

- □ Finding a personal doctor they are happy with
- Getting to see specialists
- □ Getting necessary care

#### Getting care that is needed

□ Big problem



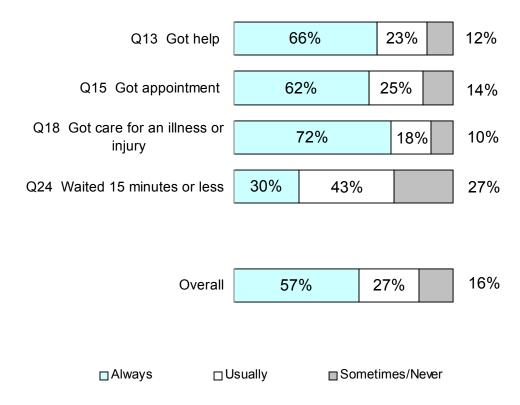
## **Composite Measure 2:**

### Getting care without long waits

The bar graph shows responses to four survey questions that asked parents *how often* they:

- ☐ Got the help or advice they needed when they called the doctor's office
- ☐ Got an appointment as soon as they wanted for routine or regular care
- Got care as soon as they wanted for an illness or injury
- □ Waited 15 minutes or less in the waiting room

#### Getting care without long waits



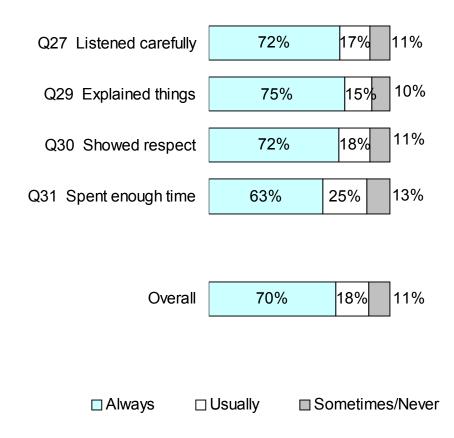
## **Composite Measure 3:**

## Doctors who communicate well with their patients

The bar graph shows responses to four survey questions that asked parents *how often* their children's doctor or other health professional:

- □ Listened to them carefully
- □ Explained things in a way they could understand
- Showed respect for what they had to say
- □ Spent enough time with their children

#### How well doctors communicated



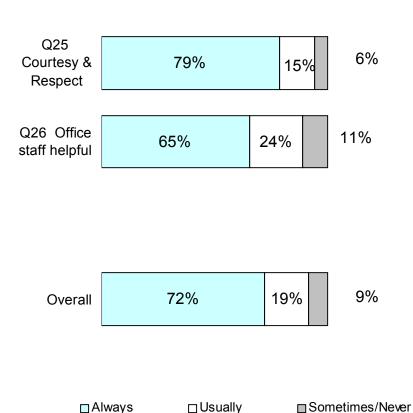
## **Composite Measure 4**

Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of medical office staff

The bar graph shows responses to two survey questions that asked parents *how often* the office staff at their children's doctor's office or clinic:

- □ Treated them with courtesy and respect
- □ Were as helpful as they thought the staff should be

#### Courtesy, respect, and helpfulness of office staff



## **Composite Measure 5**

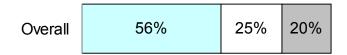
## DSHS customer service and paperwork

The bar graph shows responses to two survey questions that asked people *if they had problems with*:

- ☐ Getting the help they needed when they called Medical Assistance customer service or toll free line
- Paperwork related to getting care (such as getting their DSHS ID card or having their medical record changed)

#### **DSHS** customer service and paperwork





□ Not a problem □ Small problem □ Big problem

#### Note:

Q52 was answered by respondents who indicated they had called Medical Assistance customer service in the first 6 months of 1998.

Q58 was answered by respondents who indicated they had had some experience with DSHS paperwork for their child in the first 6 months of 1998.

## **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 19**

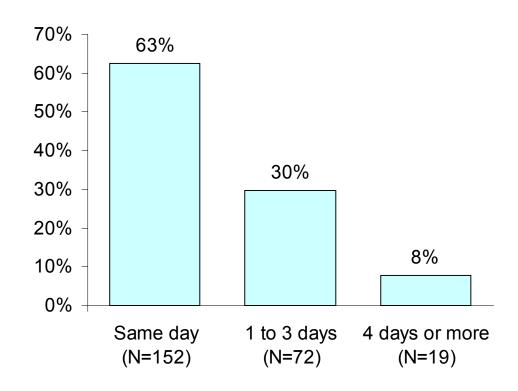
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how many days did your child usually have to wait between trying to get care and actually seeing a provider for an illness or injury?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had an illness or injury that needed care right away in the first 6 months of 1998.

### Q19 Days waiting for acute care (N=243)



## **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 32**

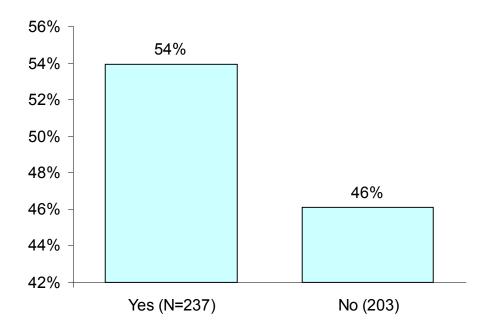
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, have any of your child's doctors or other health providers talked with you about skills you need to take care of your child?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had taken their child to a doctor's office or clinic in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q32 Doctors talked with parents about skills needed to take care of child (N=440)



## **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 33**

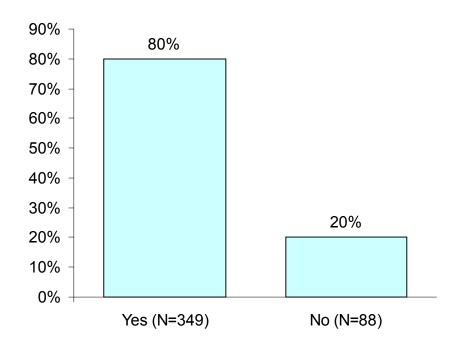
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, have any of your child's doctors or other health providers given you reassurance about the care you are providing for your child?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they had taken their child to a doctor's office or clinic in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q33 Doctors gave parents reassurance about child care (N=435)



## **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 35**

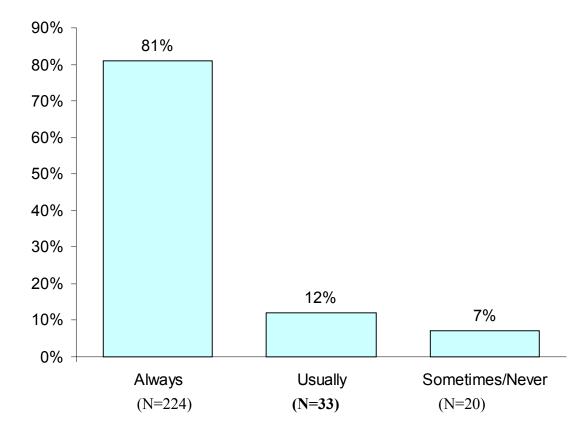
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how often were you involved as much as you wanted in the decisions about your child's health care?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated they made decisions about their child's health care in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q35 Involved as much as wanted in child's health care decisions (N=277)



## **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 39**

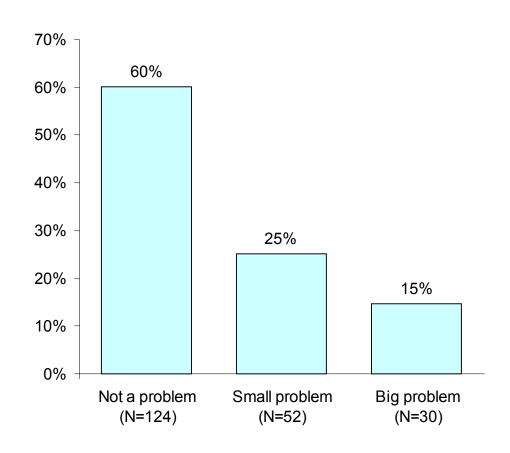
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get the physical, occupational, or speech therapy your child needed?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child needed physical, occupational, or speech therapy in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q39 Problems getting physical, occupational, or speech therapy (N=206)



## **Single Item Measure**

#### **Question 42**

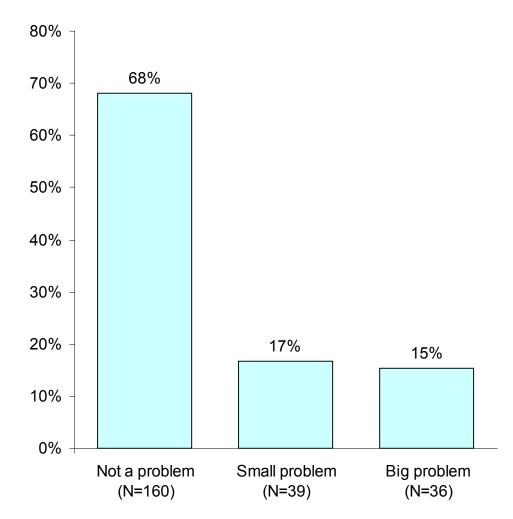
Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get the treatment or counseling your child needed?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people who indicated their child had had treatment or counseling for an emotional developmental or behavior difficulty in the first 6 months of 1998.

Q42 Problems getting treatment or counseling (N=235)



## **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 48**

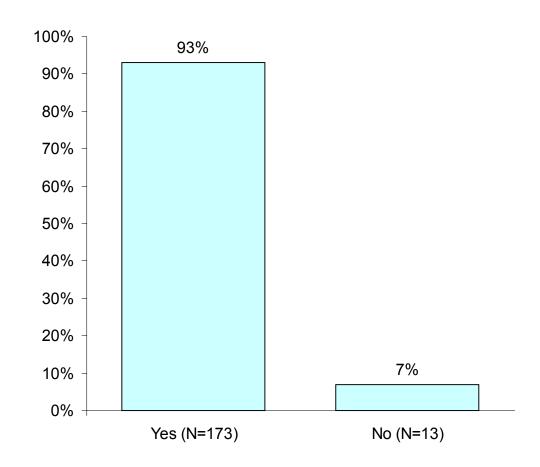
Survey respondents were asked:

"Did you get an appointment for your child's first visit to a doctor or other health provider for a check-up, or for shots or drops, as soon as you wanted?"

#### Note:

This question was answered by people whose children were two year old or younger and had gone to a doctor for a check.

## Q48 Getting appointment for child's first check-up (N=186)



## **Single Item Measure**

### **Question 61**

Survey respondents were asked:

"In the last 6 months, how much of a problem, if any, was it to get your child's prescription medicine at the drug store or pharmacy?"

#### **Note:**

This question was answered by people who indicated they did get a new prescription or had a prescription refilled in the first 6 months of 1998.

## Q61 Problems getting child's prescription medicine (N=413)

